

**Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council
Held September 1, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the Barre City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas Lauzon at 7:00 PM at Barre City Hall. In attendance were: From Ward I, Councilor Charles Dindo; from Ward II, Councilors Michael Boutin and Michael Smith; and from Ward III, Councilors Anita Chadderton and Lucas Herring. Also in attendance were City Manager Steve Mackenzie and Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Dawes.

Absent: From Ward I, Councilor Paul Poirier.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Mayor Lauzon said he will be rearranging the agenda to accommodate those present. The Mayor said next week's Council meeting will be canceled.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Council requested taking the licenses & permits separately from the other consent agenda items.

Council approved the following consent agenda items on motion of Council Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

- Minutes of the following meetings:
 - Regular meeting on August 25, 2015.
- City Warrants as presented.

Clerk Dawes reviewed the two animal licenses for consideration, and said in both instances the applications are for animals in addition to those already licensed for the properties in question. A memo from Capt. Cetin related to prior complaints about the two applicants. Capt. Cetin's memo said both applicants have made corrections to the offenses, and recommended approval of both licenses. There was discussion about the current ordinance language. Councilor Boutin said he and Capt. Cetin are working on revisions to the ordinances to provide clearer language with regards to keeping animals in the City. The proposed new language will be coming to the Council in the near future.

Council approved the Animal License for Erin Christian, 95 Smith Street, for 4 ducks in addition to the already licensed 5 chickens on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilors Dindo and Chadderton voting against.**

Council approved the Animal License for Kerri Fredette, 8 Downes Avenue, for 5 ducks and 4 chickens, amending the original license for 6 ducks, on motion of Councilor Boutin, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilors Dindo and Chadderton voting against.**

The City Clerk/Treasurer Report – Clerk Dawes reported on the following:

- The auditors are scheduled to be on site September 14-30, and staff is prepping for their arrival.
- The Clerk is working on the USDA grant application for the aerial fire truck grant.
- Water/sewer bills went in the mail yesterday and are due by September 30th.
- City Hall will be closed Monday for Labor Day.

Approval of Building Permits – Council approved the following building permits on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Address</u>
Eleanor Bouffard	72 Summer Street
Joanne Larose	145 Washington Street

Liquor Control – NONE

Visitors & Communications –

Ron Tallman from the Barre Area Veterans Council invited the Council to participate in the November 11th Veteran's Day parade, which will step off from the Auditorium at 11AM that morning. Mr. Tallman also said the BAVC is interested in coordinating the purchase of American flags to be placed on Main Street light polls. He said BAVC will solicit donations for flags, and requested that the City purchase and install the brackets and rods, and be responsible for putting the flags up and down. Mayor Lauzon said the cost is approximately \$60 per bracket and rod and there are places for up to 60 flags along Main Street. Mr. Tallman said the BAVC is requesting that the flags be put up for Memorial Day, July 4th and Veteran's Day. Mayor Lauzon asked that Buildings and Community Services Director Jeff Bergeron research the brackets and rods and report back to the Council.

New Business –

C) Resolution 2015-09: Naming September as Senior Center Month.

Senior Center Board Member Mary Gagne reported on current and upcoming Senior Center projects and programs. Ms. Gagne said there are currently 282 members and they would like to grow the membership to 500. Clerk Dawes read the resolution and Council approved it on motion of Councilor Chadderton, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

City Manager's Report –

Manager Mackenzie reported on the following:

- Notice letters were sent to those in the area affected by the July 19th flooding, inviting them to sign up for the notification email list.
- Woody debris in Gunner's Brook has been identified for removal.
- Scheduled to meet with the contractor to inventory the pedestrian buttons that need replacing.
- Enterprise Aly update – This is week 11 out of the total project timeline of 22 weeks. The work is not quite ½ done, due to the effects of the July flooding and the discovery of an unanticipated hot spot. The new hot spot will add to the cost of the project, but it is still within the budgeted amount. The project has moved into zones 2 & 3, and they are now working the entire site.
- The Vermont League of Cities & Towns' Town Fair is October 8th in Killington. Those Councilors interested in attending should let the Manager's office know so they can be registered.

There was discussion about the pedestrian buttons, and whether those installed as part of the Big Dig are covered under warranty. Manager Mackenzie said VTRANS projects do not include warranty requirements in its contracts, and the buttons were installed in 2011 as part of Phase I, so would be out of any regular warranty period, regardless. The Manager said the contractor is looking at installing new technology specifically designed for colder, wetter climates.

Old Business – NONE

New Business, continued –

A) Introduction of the New Library Director – Sarah Costa.

Aldrich Library board chair Nancy Pope introduced Sarah Costa, the new library director. Ms. Costa said the library recently completed its strategic planning which included a new mission statement. The library is more than a building full of books, and Ms. Costa outlined many of the programs offered. She introduced other new staffers Ian Gauthier, children's librarian, and Kirsten Hanson, teen librarian and new technology. Mr. Gauthier and Ms. Hanson shared some of the programs and projects offered in their areas of the library.

Ms. Pope said the library currently has five members on the board, and their bylaws allow up to seven. They are inviting both Barre City and Barre Town to appoint a member of their respective governing bodies to serve on the board. Council appointed Councilor Smith as the City representative to the board until July 1, 2016 on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Chadderton. **Motion carried.**

To be approved at 09-08-15 Barre City Council Meeting

B) Proposed City Fee Changes Continued.

Clerk Dawes reviewed the proposed changes. Council approved the changes on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Round Table:

Councilor Smith said the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority board is meeting Thursday evening.

Councilor Herring wished everyone a safe and happy Labor Day.

Mayor Lauzon said he and Mrs. Lauzon, as representatives of Vermont's only Let's Move community, have been invited to lunch with First Lady Michelle Obama later this month.

Executive Session:

Councilor Herring made the motion to find that premature general public knowledge of contracts and negotiations issues to be discussed would clearly place the City of Barre at a substantial disadvantage should the discussion be public. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

Council went into executive session at 8:02 PM under the provisions of 1 VSA sec. 313 to discuss contracts and negotiations on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried with Councilor Boutin voting against.**

Manager Mackenzie, labor attorney Scott Cameron, Chief Tim Bombardier and Human Resources Director Rikk Taft were invited into the executive session.

Council came out of executive session at 8:50 PM on motion of Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Herring. **Motion carried.**

No action was taken.

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM on motion of Councilor Herring, seconded by Councilor Smith. **Motion carried.**

An audio recording of this meeting is available through the Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn S. Dawes, City Clerk